The Sunflower Foundation invites you to its second special speaker series. Hear from leading national experts on advocacy, health care and health media. These speakers will inspire, teach and enlighten all of us, giving us insights that will make us better able to serve the needs of the people of Kansas. Following each speech, there will be a reception to meet the speaker.

This series is a component of the foundation’s advocacy initiative, which seeks to improve the health of Kansans by increasing the number of effective voices at the policymaking table.

Marcia Avner
Public Policy Director, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, St. Paul, MN
Wednesday, November 18, 2009, 3:30, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka

Ms. Avner is a nationally recognized author and nonprofit advocacy expert. She has over 30 years experience influencing public policy and has authored The Lobbying and Advocacy Handbook for Nonprofit Organizations and The Board Member’s Guide to Lobbying and Advocacy.

Rudy Lopez
Director of Politics, Center for Community Change, Washington, D.C.
Wednesday, January 6, 2010, 3:30, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka

Mr. Lopez has served as Congressional staff in Washington and has been active in national political campaigns and community organizing. He has also served as national field director of the Chicago-based U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute, overseeing regional offices in Chicago, Kansas City, Orlando and Philadelphia.

Steve Shields
President & CEO, Meadowlark Hills Retirement Center and Meadowlark Household Services, LLC
Wednesday, May 5, 2010, 3:30, Location will be announced in the near future

Mr. Shields is a sought after leadership and transformation consultant. He is a pioneer in the creation of the “Household” model of long term care and provides international consulting and education to providers on the model and its application. He is on the faculty at the Kansas State University Center on Aging, where he teaches leadership in long term care.